Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 09700 01 OF 02 191741Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-14 PM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 /076 W
----------127102 191757Z /64
R 191730Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO
SECSTATE WASHDC 7303

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 09700

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, AO, UR
SUBJECT: SUNDAY TIMES ON SOVIET MILITARY BUILD-UP
18 ISSUE OF SUNDAY TIMES.

BEGIN TEXT:

RUSSIA PUTS TOP GENERALS INTO ANGOLA BUILD-UP

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 09700 01 OF 02 191741Z

RUSSIA HAS BEGUN A BUILD-UP OF ITS TOP LEVEL MILITARY PLANNERS INSIDE ANGOLA, PRODUCING FEARS OF A BIG INTERVENTION IN NEIGHBOURING NAMIBIA (SOUTH-WEST AFRICA) BEFORE IT GAINS ITS INDEPENDENCE LATER THIS YEAR.

ACCORDING TO RELIABLE SOURCES HERE, THE RUSSIANS HAVE MOVED 11 SENIOR GENERALS INTO ANGOLA. THEY ARE TAKING

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

OVER KEY POSTS FROM CUBANS INSIDE THE ANGOLAN FORCE AND THE DEFENCE MINISTRY IN LUANDA. THEY ARE ALSO SAID TO HAVE TAKEN OVER COMMAND OF ANGOLAN DIVISIONS IN THE STRATEGIC CENTRES OF UIGE, LUANDA, HUAMBO, LUENA, LUBANGO AND THE OIL-PRODUCING ENCLAVE OF CABINDA IN THE NORTH.

SENIOR SOVIET OFFICERS NOW CONTROL ALL ANGOLAN NAVAL AND AIR FORCES AND THE COUNTRY'S MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

AT A CONFERENCE IN LUANDA THREE WEEKS AGO-PRESIDED OVER BY THE SOVIET COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN ANGOLA, GENERAL CHAHANOVICH-IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT SIX SOVIET CARGO VESSELS WOULD START TO BRING IN LARGE QUANTITIES OF SUPPLIES, INCLUDING TANKS AND ARTILLERY, FOR IMPENDING MILITARY OPERATIONS. THE FIRST SHIPMENT HAS ALREADY ARRIVED AT THE ANGOLAN PORT OF SANTO ANTONIO DO ZAIRE.

THE FIRST TARGET OF THE RUSSIAN BUILD-UP OF PLANNERS AND SUPPLIES WILL BE THE ANGOLAN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT-UNITA IN THE SOUTH AND THE FNLA IN THE NORTH. THE COUNTRY IS CONTROLLED BY THE MARXIST MPLA.

BUT THE NEXT PHASE OF SOVIET ACTIVITY ACCORDING TO MY SOURCES, WILL BE TO BACK INVASION OF NAMIBIA AS A "WAR OF LIBERATION" BY PRO-SOVIET ELEMENTS OF SWAPO, THE UNCLASSIFIED

GUERILLA ORGANISATION WHICH HAS BEEN FIGHTING SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS FOR THE LAST DECADE.

NAMIBIA-A MINERAL RICH TERRITORY OF A MILLION PEOPLE-IS DUE TO GAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM SOUTH AFRICA BY DECEMBER 31. SOUTH AFRICA HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED A PLAN BY THE WESTERN POWERS FOR ONE-MAN ONE-VOTE ELECTIONS, SUPERVISED BY THE UN, BUT THE MORE EXTREME LEFT WING ELEMENTS IN SWAPO, LED BY THE EXILED SAM NUJOMA, HAVE BEEN STALLING.

THE SOVIET AND SWAPO IDEA, APPARENTLY, IS TO TRY TO WIN "LIBERATION" BEFORE THE COUNTRY, MADE UP OF MIXED TRIBES AND 10 PER CENT WHITES, CAN GO TO THE POLLS.

IN SUPPORT OF THIS ANALYSIS, MY SOURCES CLAIM TO HAVE EVIDENCE THAT MOSCOW HAS DEPLOYED A POWERFUL MILITARY PLANNING FORCE IN ANGOLA, SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH CRUSHED THE SOMALI ARMY IN A BRILLIANT AND SPECTACULAR TEXTBOOK OPERATION IN THE OGADEN LAST MARCH.

THAT OPERATION WAS IN THE HANDS OF SOVIET GENERAL

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

VASSILY IVANOVICH PETROV, FIRST DEPUTY COMMANDER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 09700 02 OF 02 191739Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-14 PM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 /076 W
----------127092 191757Z /64
R 191730Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USNATO
SECSTATE WASHDC 7304

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 09700

OF SOVIET GROUND FORCES.

GENERAL PETROV IS ONE OF THE 11 SENIOR GENERALS THE RUSSIANS HAVE NOW MOVED INTO ANGOLA.

THE WESTERN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES SAY THAT EAST GERMANS HAVE BEEN PUT IN CHARGE OF ALL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN COMMUNICATIONS. THEY ARE REGARDED BY THE RUSSIANS AS MORE RELIABLE THAN THE CUBANS, WHO HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

PACIFY ANGOLA BY DEFEATING UNITA.

EMPHASISING SOVIET DETERMINATION TO MOUNT A MAJOR SWAPO ONSLAUGHT AGAINST NAMIBIA, MY SOURCES SAY THAT THE RUSSIANS MAY TRY TO BOOST SWAPO UNITS WITH KATANGAN TROOPS WHO TOOK PART IN LAST MONTH'S ABORTIVE INVASION OF ZAIRE'S SHABA PROVINCE.

AMONG THE SOVIET COMMANDERS AND STAFF OFFICERS IN KEY POSITIONS IN ANGOLA, ACCORDING TO WESTERN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, ARE GENERALS PARAMONOV, GONCHARENKO, KRUPCHENKO, PENEN, TROFINIMENKO, CHATCHENKO, ODANESSIAN-VARGAOR, KODAN, ZAPUTRIOV AND POSTOLOV.

ERIC MARSDEN REPORTS FROM JOHANNESBURG: GOVERNMENT AND ARMY SPOKESMEN IN PRETORIA HAD NO COMMENT ON THE REPORTS. ACCORDING TO MILITARY SOURCES, PARTICIPATION BY SWAPO GUERRILLAS IN ANY INVASION ATTEMPT IS A REMOTE POSSIBILITY BECAUSE THE TWO RAIDS ON ITS BASES IN ANGOLA EARLY IN MAY VIRTUALLY DESTROYED THE GUERRILLAS' LOGISTICAL SYSTEM AND TOOK HEAVY TOLL OF THEIR FORCES.

THE RAID LED TO COMPLAINTS FROM WESTERN NATIONS THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN ACTION HARMED CHANCES OF GETTING SWAPO TO AGREE TO ACCEPT THE WESTERN SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS. BUT IN THE PAST MONTH THERE HAS BEEN A SHARP REDUCTION IN TERRORIST INCIDENTS ON THE NORTHERN BORDER.

END TEXT

BREWSTER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BUILDUP, TEXTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON09700
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780255-0574
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780645/aaaabmmi.tel
Line Count: 204
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cff94086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2300606
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUNDAY TIMES ON SOVIET MILITARY BUILD-UP 18 ISSUE OF SUNDAY TIMES. BEGIN TEXT
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, AO, UR
To: PRETORIA LUSAKA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cff94086-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014